



August 1, 2007

Dear Hunter,

Welcome to Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program. This program was initiated to increase upland game bird numbers and to improve upland bird hunting opportunity. The projects Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) undertake are mainly with private landowners. Some projects, however, have been completed on state and federal lands.

ACCESS

All projects require “reasonable” access for upland game bird hunting. Because of the different sizes of projects, and the benefits they provide to upland birds, the landowner and FWP jointly identify the levels of access a project area can support. The enclosed maps show approximate project locations and each is designated by a symbol. By looking up the number in the table for the FWP Region, designated at the top of the map, you can determine the name of the landowner for that project. It is your responsibility to contact the landowner for permission to hunt. Areas enrolled in the Block Management program will require following BMA rules for acquiring permission (see more below).

LANDOWNER PERMISSION IS REQUIRED BEFORE HUNTING OR ENTERING ANY PRIVATE LAND PROJECT.

BLOCK MANAGEMENT

In addition to the UGBHE program, FWP’s Block Management Program also provides for hunter access to private lands. **For some upland game bird projects, public hunting access is managed through the Block Management Program. Hunters are encouraged to contact the appropriate FWP Regional office to obtain Block Management Program Materials.** A map of the FWP regions, and phone numbers for each office, is provided on the next page of this guide.

OTHER ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES

Additional upland game bird hunting access may be available on more than 32 million acres of federal, tribal and state lands within Montana, many of which offer upland game bird hunting opportunities. Information on FWP lands can be obtained from regional offices. A “Directory of Montana Maps,” listing a variety of state and federal agencies addresses and phone numbers is available at all FWP offices or by calling the FWP Helena Headquarters at 406-444-2535. Most federal agency offices have maps available that display the locations of federal and tribal lands.

Enjoy the fall season and your Montana hunting experience. Please be respectful to the lands you hunt, report any rule violations you may see (1-800-TIP-MONT) and remember to thank the landowners who grant you access to their property.

Happy hunting!

Sincerely,

M. Jeff Hagener
Director